

**REMARKS****Support for the Amendment**

Support for the amendments to claims 20 and 31 may be found in the previously presented claims, FIGs. 1-5, and in paragraphs [026] and [029] of the specification. Support for the amendment to claim 32 and new claim 49 may be found in the previously presented claims, FIGs. 6-11, and paragraphs [026] and [029] through [032] of the specification.

Support for new claim 35 may be found in previously presented claim 31. Support for new claims 36, 37, 38, 44, and 45 may be found in paragraph [029] of the specification. Support for new claims 39, 43, 47, and 48 may be found in paragraph [032] of the specification. Support for new claim 40 may be found in FIGs. 1-5, and support for new claim 50 may be found in FIGs. 6-11. Support for new claims 42 and 46 may be found in paragraph [031] of the specification.

**Status of the Claims**

Claims 20, 31, 32, and 34-48 are pending. Claims 20, 31, and 32 are amended. Claims 1-19, 21-30, and 33 are cancelled without prejudice. Claims 34-48 are new.

**Status of the Drawings**

Applicant acknowledges that the formal drawings filed on March 24, 2005 were accepted.

**Request for Reconsideration**

Conventional multi-piece metal yoke clamps for holding printed circuit boards to the neck of CRT tubes require multiple operations to install. Furthermore, the force exerted when the threaded screw is tightened to contract a metal clamp may damage the circuit board or tube. The present yoke clamps use a split ring to encircle and hold the neck of the CRT tube, while attached

stand-offs separate the split ring from the printed circuit board. The present yoke clamps also may isolate the contraction and expansion of a first split ring that holds the CRT tube from movement of the stand-offs that hold the printed circuit board. This isolation of movement between the first split ring and the printed circuit board may be provided by a connecting leg attaching a second split ring to the first split ring.

As amended, present claims 20, 31, and 34-39 specify that the stand-offs maintain the circuit board a distance away from the split ring. Furthermore, independent claim 32 and dependent claims 40-48 specify that the stand-offs extend from a second split ring attached to the first split ring that holds the neck of the CRT tube.

#### **The Claims are Not Obvious Over the Cited Art**

The rejection of the claims as being obvious over U.S. Pat. No. 5,745,348 ("*Cha*"); U.S. Pat. No. 6,404,118 ("*Park*"); or U.S. Pat. No. 4,128,918 ("*Wenk*") is respectfully traversed.

*Cha* describes a metal band-clamp 22 attached to a support plate 27. (Col. 3, Lines 2-12). The support plate 27 includes tabs 28 that are flush with the support plate. (Col. 3, Lines 13-14). As established in FIG. 3 and from the text of column 3, the printed circuit board 1 is held flush to the support plate 27 by tabs 28 and the associated halt tabs 29. (Col. 3, Lines 36-44).

*Park* describes a circuit board 30 attached to a rear cover 11b of a coil separator. (Col. 5, Lines 41-42). Hooks 40 and 45 are attached to the cover 11b and include supporting ribs 41 and 46 for supporting the circuit board 30 (Col. 5, Lines 65-67; Col. 6, Lines 44-49).

*Wenk* describes a hose clamp having opposed inter-lockable members. (Col. 4, Lines 26-30). The clamp is closed about a hose by engaging the opposed inter-lockable members. (Col. 4, Lines 60-64).

The cited references do not provide the claimed invention. *Cha* lacks the stand-offs and split ring connecting means including a cooperating series of barbs or teeth as specified in independent claims 31 and 32 and the associated dependent claims. In direct contrast to the present stand-offs, which space the circuit board from the split ring or rings, the tabs of *Cha* hold the circuit board flush to a support plate. The clamping system of *Cha* also lacks the cooperating series of barbs or teeth, which permits rapid installation of the present yolk clamp. Furthermore, a second split ring including a plurality of stand-offs, as specified in independent claim 32 and the associated dependent claims, is absent from the cited references alone or in combination.

*Park* lacks any clamping mechanism whatsoever, instead disclosing hooks that space a cover from a circuit board. *Cha* and *Park* provide no motivation to combine their teachings, in fact, *Cha* teaches away from the space of *Park*, relying on flush attachment. Furthermore, because the clamp of *Cha* would be rendered inoperable for its intended purpose of holding the circuit board flush to the support plate if it were modified with *Park* to space the circuit board from the support plate, there can be no suggestion or motivation to modify *Cha* with *Park*. (MPEP 2143.01 V, citing *In re Gordon*, 733 F.2d 900, 221 USPQ 1125 (Fed. Cir. 1984)). As such, the rejections under 35 USC § 103 over *Cha* and *Park* should be withdrawn.

While *Wenk* teaches split ring connecting means including a cooperating series of barbs or teeth, the reference is directed to clamping hoses onto nipples. Even if the clamping mechanism of *Cha* could be successfully replaced with the hose clamp of *Wenk*, the lack of any suggestion that the resulting combination could be successfully combined with *Park* remains.

While the pieces of the presently claimed invention may be able to be found in *Cha*, *Park*, and *Wenk* in combination, the cited references lack any teaching why these specific pieces should be selected over others and/or how

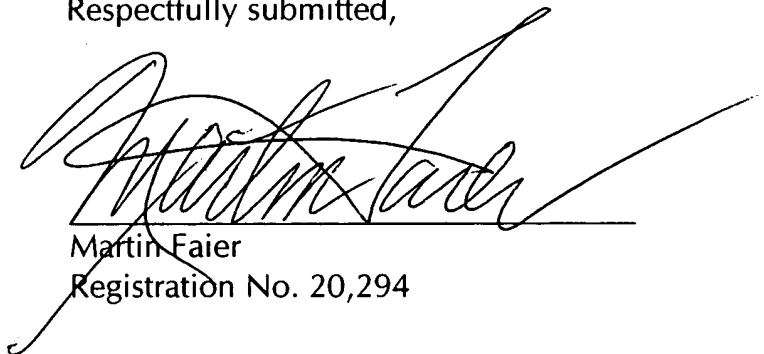
these specific pieces should be assembled to provide the claimed invention. Since an example cannot be found in any of the cited references which would lead one to select and assemble the components of the claimed invention in an operable manner, the rejection should be withdrawn. *In re Petering and Fall*, 133 U.S.P.Q. 275, 281 (CCPA 1962). Furthermore, the proposed combination can only make the claimed invention obvious if one picks and chooses only so much from one cited reference as will support the presently claimed invention, while excluding the other parts necessary to the inventions of the cited references. Under *Bausch & Lomb, Inc. v. Barnes-Hind/Hydrocurve, Inc.*, 796 F.2d 443, 448 (Fed. Cir. 1986), such an obviousness rejection is impermissible. Thus, the invention of the present claims is not obvious over the cited reference and the rejections should be withdrawn.

### Conclusion

The Applicant believes the Examiner's concerns have been addressed to overcome the rejections. Upon the indication of allowable subject matter, Applicant respectfully requests that Examiner Pape contact the undersigned at the number below to expedite issuance of this case.

*Please charge any fees due or to become due,  
including delay extension fees to my Deposit  
Account 06-0040.*

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: 11/27/06

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